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N. S. W.

L. G. Brain  
N. S. W. Head  
Deerble Bay"WYUNA COURT"  
4 LONGWORTH AVENUE  
POINT PIPER  
SYDNEY

7 August 1963.

Dear Fred,

Only last week I heard that you had retired from your position with D.C.A. and I write to wish you good health and peace and happiness in your retirement.

It brings back many vivid memories of your being loaned in 1929 to act as radio operator on our search flight for Anderson and Hitchcock and how ~~you installed and~~ ~~was~~ overnight you installed a makeshift transmitter and receiver in "Atalanta" and lowered a trailing aerial by simply drilling a hole in the wooden floor. And what amazingly successful results you achieved on that search flight.

Some later when I was teaching you to fly in a "Moth" and before you reached solo stage, we took off one morning and just as we were in the air I found that my cockpit was not fitted with a joystick, and how I talked you around and back to a safe landing at Eagle Farm airport without your knowing that I had no dual control!



IMPERTURBABLE

I remember well how later when you joined Qantas as first officer pilot and chief radio technician, what a relaxed imperturbable instrument pilot you proved to be in cloud and rain on the overseas flights to Singapore and how despite crackling tropical static you could pluck radio messages from the air. Never since have I met you equal in these matters.

While I was awarded the A.D.C. for those search and rescue flights it was undoubtedly a team effort in which you and our flight engineer Phil Compton shared the honour.

Well, Fred, good luck - Any time you may be in Sydney I should be very glad if you will telephone me and call in.

Yours sincerely  
Lester Brain.

Replied 9/4/63